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ELEKTRA

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ELEKTRA VS. RAZORFAST™

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MIKE DEODATO JR.

Stan Lee PRESENTS

FURY

PETER MILLIGAN
WRITER

MIKE DEODATO JR.
ARTIST

DEODATO STUDIOS
INKS

CHRISTIE SCHEELE
COLORS

JACK MORELLI
LETTERS

DIGITAL CHAMELEON
SEPS

BOBBIE CHASE
EDITOR

BOB HARRAS
CHIEF

NEW YORK CITY. A DANCE THEATER.

TO AVENGE THE MURDER OF MY FATHER, I KILLED. Oh, HOW I KILLED.

AND SO THE FURIES OF VENGEANCE AND GUILT PURSUED AND HARRIED ME.

THEN I WAS OFFERED THE CHANCE OF HAVING MY FATHER RISE FROM HIS GRAVE. BUT WOULDN'T THAT CAUSE EVEN MORE OFFENSE TO THE GODS? WOULDN'T THAT MAKE THE FURIES EVEN MORE... FURIOUS?

I REJECTED THAT OFFER. MY FATHER REMAINS SAFELY BOXED IN THE GROUND...

...SO AS SOME SMALL GESTURE OF THANKS, MAYBE YOU FURIES WILL GIVE ME A BREAK?

AGAMEMNON

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THAT'S THE THEME OF THE *DANCE*. THE FURIES REPRESENT BLOODY, ANCIENT *VENDETTA*.

BY THE END OF *AESCHYLUS'S PLAY*, THEY COME TO SYMBOLIZE JUSTICE AND ORDER.

YOU SHOULD GET A LOAD OF THE HOUSE OF *ATREUS*, WHENCE *AGAMEMNON* AND *ELECTRA* AND THE OTHERS CAME.

CANNIBALISM, INCEST, INFANTICIDE, FRATRICIDE, ALL *KINDS* OF CIDE. THE ORIGINAL *BRADY BUNCH*.

THE *ORESTEIA* IS ABOUT SUFFERING INTO KNOWLEDGE. ESCAPING BY PAINFUL MEANS FROM THE CURSE OF BLOODY REVENGE...

...THE MOVEMENT FROM DARKNESS...

...INTO *LIGHT*.

I'M NO *GREEK SCHOLAR*, BUT THAT ISN'T HOW THE LEGEND GOES.

YOU HAVE *ELECTRA* AND NOT *ORESTES* AVENGING THEIR DEAD FATHER BY SLAYING THEIR MOTHER, *CLYTEMNESTRA*.

SO I'M BEING *LIBERAL* WITH THE *ADAPTATION*.

MY NOSE IS SOMETHING OF A LEGEND ITSELF...

...AND YOU SEEM TO HAVE BEEN PRETTY LIBERAL WITH THE LIQUOR, TOO.

I'M DRUNK, KONRAD. IS THAT SO SHOCKING? CAN'T A GIRL GET TOTALLY LEGLESS FROM TIME TO TIME?

THAT IS, AS THEY SAY, YOUR PEROGATIVE.

BUT THERE'S DESPERATION IN YOUR INEBRIATION.

IS THERE ONE THING YOU WANT, KONRAD?

ONE THING ABOVE ALL ELSE? ONE THING YOU HAVE PRAYED FOR? ACHED FOR?

ABSOLUTELY NOT. I'M A FULLY REALIZED HUMAN BEING.

LIAR.

TODAY I WAS OFFERED WHAT I WANTED MOST... AND TURNED IT DOWN.

AND THAT'S WHY I WENT OUT AND GOT DRUNK.

WE SUFFER INTO KNOWLEDGE, KONRAD. OUR PAIN MAKES US WISER.

BUT SOMETIMES THE PAIN BECOMES TOO GREAT.

SOMETIMES YOU WANT THE FURIES TO TAKE A HIKE.

LATER...

I COULDN'T HELP NOTICING HOW MIS-ERABLE YOU LOOKED. MAYBE WE COULD--

THE ARCHITECT OFFERED HER HER FATHER BACK. SHE SAID 'NO'.

WAS IT COMMON SENSE...?

...OR HER OWN PERVERSE DISPOSITION?

SORRY... I'M REALLY SORRY...

THE DOJO.

SHE WILL GIVE MAC HER ANSWER NOW.

HE WANTS TO BE MORE THAN JUST FRIENDS, BUT...

...NO.

SHE'S FULL OF THIS UNFAMILIAR BOOZE.

HE DESERVES BETTER THAN THAT.

ACT, ELEKTRA. DO SOMETHING.

ANYTHING.

ANYTHING ELSE. BUT... I'VE JUST COME OFF A FORTY HOUR SHIFT. I'M BEAT. I'M DISORIENTED...

...AND I REALLY SHOULD NOT TELL YOU WHERE THEY'RE KEEPING KILLER SHRIKE.

BUT THIS IS IMPORTANT, DETECTIVE MICHAEL MORRISEY.

YOU SEEM... DIFFERENT TONIGHT. TELL YOU THE TRUTH, YOU'RE SCARING ME...

Shhhh... JUST TELL ME. WHERE'S KILLER SHRIKE? THEN I'LL LET YOU GET BACK TO YOUR DREAMS.

WHO KNOWS? I MIGHT EVEN BE IN YOUR DREAMS.

SO HE TELLS HER, AS HE WOULD TELL HER ANYTHING.

AS HE WOULD DO ANYTHING, IF SHE ASKED.

THANK YOU, MICHAEL.

PERHAPS, SHE THINKS...

...I MIGHT STILL BE A LITTLE DRUNK.

SIMON MADDICKS IS A TOUGH GUY. HE'S MORE THAN A TOUGH GUY. HE'S KILLER SHRIKE.

WANT SOME MORE JUICE. AND GET ME MORE BAGELS. THE LAST ONES WERE STALE AND OLD...

...HOW THE HECK DID YOU GET IN HERE?

EASILY.

THE COPS HAVE BEEN AT ME FOR DAYS. I AIN'T TOLD 'EM A THING. SAME GOES FOR YOU.

FINE? YOU DON'T FOOL ME. I'VE HEARD ABOUT YOU. I KNOW WHAT YOU DO TO PEOPLE. ESPECIALLY MEN.

WHAT'RE YOU DOIN'?

THIS'S PART OF IT, AIN'T IT? FIRST YOU... FIRST YOU GET MY MIND GOIN' THROUGH ALL THE AWFUL THINGS YOU'RE GONNA DO TO ME...

...I HEARD WHAT YOU DID TO THAT GUY WITH... WITH YOUR FINGERNAIL... WELL... YOU DON'T SCARE ME...

FINE.

SITTING HERE.

GOOD.

LOOK, IF YOU'RE GONNA DO SOMETHING, LET'S DO IT! NOW! COME ON! START HURTING ME! LET'S GO!

dumdedum dedum...

OKAY, IF I'D BEATEN SHATTER-HEAD I WOULD'VE GONE TO THIS HOTEL ...LOWER EAST SIDE...

...WHERE I'D FIND RAZOR-FIST.

MAYBE THIS IS IT, SHE THINKS.

IF SHE BEATS RAZORFIST, IT'LL BE ALL OVER. THE ARCHITECT WILL GET OUT OF TOWN AND TAKE THE REST OF THE HIRED GUNS WITH HIM.

SHE DOESN'T BELIEVE THAT.

OUR MASTER IS READY FOR YOU.

THE ONE NAMED THE **ARCHITECT** MADE IT CLEAR. ONE OF US MUST BE DEFEATED.

UNLESS YOU PACK UP AND LEAVE THE CITY.

AND DO WHAT?

TAKE UP *EMBROIDERY?*

SHE UNDERSTANDS WHY HE MUST FIGHT. WHY HE MUST BE RAZORFIST.

TAKE THAT AWAY, AND WHAT IS LEFT?

A SAD, MAD AMPUTEE.

SHE WONDERS IF SHE IS SO DIFFERENT FROM HIM.

THE RUDE STUMPS OF HER OWN DISFIGURE-MENT ONLY LESS VISIBLE.

TAKE AWAY THE COSTUME, THE SAIS, THE GRUELLING HOURS OF PHYSICAL AND MENTAL TRAINING...

AND WHAT IS LEFT...?

WHO WOULD SHE BE?

THANK YOU FOR NOT KILLING OUR MASTER. WE WILL TAKE HIM BACK TO THE HOUSE OF THE RAZOR.

WHAT IS IT? YOU'RE BOTH YOUNG. YOU SOUND EDUCATED. WHY DO YOU FOLLOW HIM?

WE MUST ALL SERVE SOME-ONE.

YEAH, RIGHT.

LATER, AT HOME...

SHE HAS BARELY ENOUGH STRENGTH TO GET HOME AND DO A LITTLE EM-BROIDERY OF HER OWN.

WEARINESS, NOT ALL PHYSICAL, OVERWHELMS HER.

SHE IS GRATEFUL FOR THE DARK.

I'M SORRY, PAPA.

GOA, INDIA.

HE LOOKS LIKE JUST ANOTHER SADHU, HOBBLING THROUGH THE STATE CAPITAL OF PANJIM

BUT THIS SADHU IS IN PAIN.

THIS BODY IS BUT A TEMPORARY VEHICLE FOR THE ANCIENT ALIEN SOUL WHO SOMETIMES CALLS HIMSELF THE ARCHITECT.

THE GAUDY COLORS OF THE TEMPLE DEDICATED TO GANESHA REMINDS HIM OF HIS OWN FORMER BRILLIANCE.

WHEN HE AND HIS COMPATRIOTS LANDED ON THIS PLANET, THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO.

A VEHICLE THAT IS FALLING APART

HE IS THE LAST OF MANY.

HE IS IN PAIN.

BUT SOON, THAT PAIN WILL BE GONE.

HE SEES WHAT HE NEEDS

THEY'RE AMERICAN.

IT IS THE EASIEST THING IN THE WORLD TO DRAW HER CLOSER

H-HI .. ISN'T THIS PLACE INCREDIBLE? LIKE, DO YOU LIVE HERE OR SOMETHING?

NO THIS IS ONLY A TEMPORARY ABODE.

AHUHUH ..

HMMM... HOW DELIGHTFULLY SNUG YOU FEEL ..

THE TOURISTS PART, UNSURE WHETHER IT'S A CRAZY SADHU...

.. OR SOME STRANGE HINDU CEREMONY.

IT IS NEITHER

HEY, JUDY, DID YOU SEE THAT GUY? HE JUST WENT CRAZY, AND DROPPED DOWN DEAD!

I WONDER WHAT GOT INTO HIM?

OBVIOUSLY, SOMEONE TREPANNED HER WHILE SHE WAS SLEEPING

OH, GOOD GRAVY. THIS IS THE END OF A VERY SHORT DRINKING CAREER

HEAVY NIGHT?

DON'T ASK

LISTEN IMPORTANT ANYTHING ON THE NEWS LAST NIGHT?

LIKE WHAT?

ANY-THING UNUSUAL?

WELL, THE CLINTONS HAVEN'T BEEN ACCUSED OF ANY NEW FINANCIAL MISDEMEANORS TODAY I GUESS THAT'S PRETTY UNUSUAL.

WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO THIS MORNING? SHOPPING? MUSIC? CLOTHES? INSANE WHIRL-POOL PARTIES?

WE'LL TAKE A CAB TO THE PARK AND GO FOR A RUN.

Oh, SWELL.

THE WORLD'S STILL HERE, SHE THINKS

MAYBE IT'S ALL OVER.

THIS IS WHERE IT STARTS, HE THINKS.

HIS CHANGE OF LUCK

HE'LL GET THIS BIG JOB THAT EVERYONE'S FIGHTING OVER

HE IS MARK SCARLOTTI

HI, HONEY

ALSO KNOWN AS BLACKLASH.

HI, HONEY!? YOU DISAPPEAR AND THEN YOU PHONE UP AND SAY 'HI, HONEY' LIKE NOTHING'S HAPPENED

A LOT'S HAPPENED. BE QUIET AND LISTEN

I'M IN NEW YORK.. AND I'VE GOTTA CHANCE TO PUT ALL THE GARBAGE BEHIND US, TRUDI.

BUT I'M GONNA NEED YOUR HELP.

YOU'VE BEEN FOOLING AROUND IN THAT BLACKLASH COSTUME AGAIN! GEE, MARK, WHY CAN'T YOU BE LIKE NORMAL GUYS. AND DRESS UP IN WOMAN'S CLOTHES?

VERY FUNNY, TRUDI YOU'RE A VERY FUNNY HUMAN BEING.

GET YOUR FOLKS TO LOOK AFTER THE KID AND COME HERE AS QUICK AS YOU CAN AND HEY, I LOVE YOU.

YEAH AND I LOVE YOU.

CENTRAL PARK

OKAY I'LL SHOW YOU SOME MARTIAL ARTS TECH NIQUES.

I DON'T WANT TO LEARN ANY-THING TOO COMPLICATED. JUST ENOUGH SO I CAN PUSH PEOPLE AROUND A LITTLE.

THAT'S THE BEST PART OF IT.

BAD LINK, BUT TALKING OF *FIGHTERS*, HAVE YOU...?

MAC? HAVEN'T SPOKEN TO HIM

WHAT WAS HIS NAME?

WHOSE?

THE GUY YOU HAVEN'T GOTTEN OVER YET.

NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.

MAYBE WE SHOULD TALK ABOUT YOUR LITTLE EPISODE ON THE *FIRE ESCAPE*. IF WE HAVE A *SUICIDE*, THE LANDLORD WILL ONLY HIKE THE *RENT* UP.

PARDON ME, BUT WAS THAT A BLATANT ATTEMPT AT CHANGING THE SUBJECT?

THAT WASN'T AN *ATTEMPT*. THAT *WAS* A CHANGE OF SUBJECT.

OKAY. I'LL TALK ABOUT IT BUT LET'S QUIT ALL THIS STUPID *RUNNING AROUND* AND GET IN A DECENT, CIVILIZED CAB.

THE TRIBORO BRIDGE

COMING HOME EARLY IS A REAL BUMMER, YOU KNOW THAT? DO YOU **KNOW** THAT? YOU HAVE LIKE. LIKE. LIKE **TOTALLY** SCREWED UP MY, I MEAN OUR, YES, **OUR** VACATION!

EVER SINCE YOU SAW THAT CRAZY INDIAN GUY GO ALL DOOLALLY IN THE TEMPLE YOU'VE BEEN ACTING LIKE A TOTAL..A TOTAL

YOUR DEGREE OF MEDIOCRITY IS ASTOUND-ING.

GREGG..

YES, JUDY.

UHHUHHH.

IS HE SICK OR SUM-THANG?

JUST SUFFERING FROM A LITTLE JET LAG

IT'S BEEN A LONG, LONG JOURNEY

OPENING NIGHT

CROWD LOOKS REALLY GOOD THAT KONRAD GUY HAS REALLY BEEN WORKING THE PUBLICITY.

JUST SO LONG AS SOME OF THE PROCEEDS FIND THEIR WAY INTO THE DOJO'S COFFERS, LIKE ELEKTRA PROMISED

HEY, MAC, I THINK THINGS'RE LOOKING PREEEETY GOOD IN THE OLD ROMANCE STAKES.

YOU'LL BE GLAD TO KNOW I PUT IN A COUPLE OF GOOD WORDS ABOUT YOU TO MS. E.

THANKS SO MUCH

DON'T MENTION IT.

EXCUSE ME, I COULDN'T HELP OVER-HEARING, BUT DO YOU KNOW THE STAR OF THE SHOW?

SURE I SHARE AN APARTMENT WITH HER, AND MAC HERE IS ALMOST--

THAT'S ENOUGH, NINA

YEAH WE KNOW HER.

HOW NICE.

BACKSTAGE

WE SHOULD'VE HAD MORE REHEAR-SALS. YOU WON'T BELIEVE HOW MANY TOP CRITICS ARE OUT THERE WHAT IF ONE OF YOU SCREWS UP?

THEN WE JUST GIVE EVERY-ONE THEIR MONEY BACK

ONLY JOKING

HOW CAN YOU BE SO COOL? YOU'VE NEVER DANCED BEFORE YOU SHOULD BE PETRIFIED! I HATE YOU! I DEMAND TO KNOW YOUR SECRET.

KONRAD, I DIED ONCE! I WAS KILLED...

AND THEN I WAS BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE.

AFTER AN EXP'ERIENCE: LIKE THAT, THIS STUFF DOESN'T BOTHER ME

IF THE CRITICS OUT THERE KILL YOU. NO POWER ON EARTH WILL RESURRECT YOU.

NOT EXACTLY

MS. EPSILON PERFORMANCE STARTS IN FIVE MINUTES.

STILL TOTALLY COOL?

GOOD THEN I THINK WE'LL BE OKAY.

I ONCE MET SOME OF THE POETS WHO COLLECTIVELY BECAME KNOWN AS HOMER.

AUTHOR OF THESE GLORIOUS GREEK BLOODBATHS.

I WAS THERE WHEN THE MAN WHO WAS THE INSPIRATION FOR AGAMEMNON WAS SLAUGHTERED.

IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, I WAS A LITTLE EMBROILED IN THE WHOLE AFFAIR

YOU ARE NOT ACTING NOW, ARE YOU, ELEKTRA ?

MYTH AND PERSONAL EXPERIENCE MERGE WITHIN YOU

LOOK AT THEM. THEY'RE AMAZED AT YOU.

BUT NOT I I KNOW YOUR PAIN.

I KNOW WHAT YOUR FRIENDS CANNOT BEGIN TO KNOW ABOUT YOU.

THIS IS THE PART I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR.

ELEKTRA'S REVENGE ON THE ONE WHO KILLED HER FATHER.

AND NOW THEIR RATHER SILLY TRANSFORMATION FROM BEASTS OF VENGEANCE...

...TO BENEVOLENT PATRONS.

NEVERTHELESS...

...I THINK WE HAVE A HIT ON OUR HANDS.

THE SLAYING OF MOTHER CLYTEMNESTRA.

AND NOW THE FURIES.

THE CRITICS WILL LOVE IT. THE CROWDS WILL LOVE IT. EVERYONE WILL LOVE IT. BUT NOT AS MUCH AS I LOVE IT, FOR MY LOVE IS OF A SPECIAL AND UNIQUE ARCHITECTURE.

SO, YOU LIKED IT?

SHE IS EXHAUSTED, BUT FEELS WONDERFUL.

WOW, SISTER! YOU CAN DANCE!

YEAH. IT'S JUST A BIT OF LEAPING AROUND.

HI, MAC.

'LEKTRA.

MORE FLOWERS FOR EPSILON.

THANK...

...YOU...

Now it begins

SOON. ONE PERFORMANCE ENDS... ANOTHER...

GOING OUT?

OUT? YES... ...A LITTLE WORK TO DO.

ALL THAT KILLING AND GRIEF AND STUFF IN THE DANCE, IT WAS ABOUT YOU, WASN'T IT? LIKE, A LOT OF IT.

YEAH. A LOT OF IT.

CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG, I'M JUST A SIMPLE COUNTRY GIRL, BUT...

THE MEANING OF THE DANCE WAS THAT THE FURIES DON'T HAVE TO SCREW AROUND WITH YOU ANYMORE. YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP FIGHTING THE OLD BATTLES?

I'M NOT SURE WHEN I'LL BE HOME.

SHE HAD IMAGINED HERSELF PURSUED AND HARRIED BY THE FURIES.

BUT AS SHE WALKS TOWARDS THE GROWING STORM, SHE REALIZES THAT IT IS MORE ACCURATE...

...TO THINK OF HERSELF AS ONE OF THE FURIES.

DO THEY HAVE ANY CHOICE WHO THEY PURSUE?

WOULDN'T THEY RATHER NOT BE FURIES AT ALL?

AND WOULDN'T SHE RATHER NOT BE GOING OUT TONIGHT?

TO BE CONTINUED...